

END THE CAGE AGE WORK PROGRAMME

Intergroup meeting
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End the use of cages in European farming

- Yearly, up to 700 million farm animals in Europe are being farmed in cages.
- Achieving the overall campaign aim to end the use of cages in EU farming has the potential to benefit these animals by sparing them a life of suffering in a cage.
- A problem of this scale needs an ambitious response, and through support for an ECI across Europe we want to see a whole continent making a stand against cruel caged systems.

European Citizens' Initiative

A successful ECI will:

- Raise the profile of the issues relating to cages and farm animal welfare – both to the general public and among key policy makers.
- Build the movement of citizens calling for an end to the use of cages in farming.
- Push the European Commission to consider new legislation that contributes to the end of cages in EU farming.

Draft wording

- The ECI addresses all caged species. The description of objectives is as follows:
- *The Commission is invited to propose legislation to prohibit the use of:*
 - *cages for farmed rabbits, pullets, broiler breeders, quail, ducks and geese;*
 - *enriched cages for laying hens;*
 - *farrowing crates for sows;*
 - *sow stalls during the first four weeks of pregnancy;*
 - *stalls for calves for the first eight weeks of life*

ECI Launch and Exhibition

- ECI launch: 25 September 2018 (morning conference)
Invitees: Commission, MEPs, NGOs, industry, corporate stakeholders, Member States
- END THE CAGE AGE exhibition: 24-28 September 2018. Hosted by Eleonora Evi (EFDD) and the WG.
- In addition, we will organize events in many MS. MEPs will be invited to host such events and work with national NGOs, urging citizens to support the ECI.

Proposed Work Programme

MEPs will:

- Raise awareness in the European Parliament about the serious welfare issues surrounding the use of cages in animal farming;
- Meet with Commissioners Andriukaitis and Hogan
- Participate in END THE CAGE AGE exhibition in the EP, 24-28 Sept 2018;
- Participate in the ECI launch event in the EP, 25 Sept 2018;
- Support letters and engage in photo ops, individually or as a group
- Meet with ministers in home countries
- Meet with NGO representatives in Brussels and home countries
- Support the ECI campaign and join activities at Member State level, acting as spokespersons;
- Help recruit national NGOs in home countries to support the ECI
- Prompt press interest in Brussels and elsewhere in Europe (articles and blog posts, interviews);
- Gather cross party support and present, in due course, a Resolution calling on the Commission to produce legislation aiming at ending the use of cages in farming;

Compassion in World Farming will:

- Provide a coordinating role
- Monitor work programme and timeline
- Plan campaign activities for MEPs (MS and EU), communicate re national events
- Organize exhibition and launch event in EP
- Organize meetings for MEPs
- Media work
- Link MS activities with EP election campaigning leading to May 2019